Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook
May 10 - 16, 2018

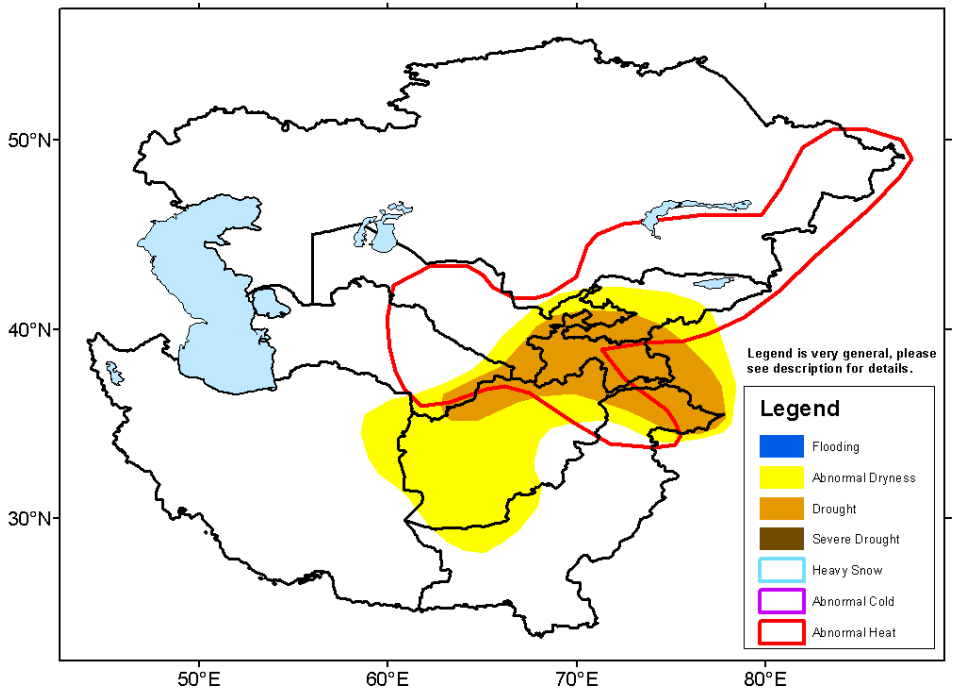
Temperatures:

Above-normal temperatures (2 to 8 degrees C) were observed in western Kazakhstan during the beginning of May. Elsewhere across Central Asia, temperatures were below normal in eastern Kazakhstan and remained mainly near to average otherwise. Mean maximum temperatures of at least 20 degrees C were ubiquitous in Kazakhstan, while maximum temperatures peaked at 38 degrees C in southern Afghanistan. A surge of warm temperatures is forecasted during the outlook period. Temperatures exceeding 30 degrees C are expected for large portions of Southern Kazakhstan and maximum temperatures are likely to exceed 40 degrees C in southwestern Afghanistan and Turkmenistan. An abnormal heat hazard is poster where maximum temperatures are expected to exceed 8°C or more above average.

Precipitation

Widespread precipitation (2 to 25 mm) fell across much of northern and eastern Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and northern Afghanistan. Some heavier amounts of rain were observed in northern Pakistan where more than 100mm of rain was observed according to satellite estimates. The abnormal dryness and drought hazards are posted for parts of Afghanistan and adjacent countries based on: large 6-month precipitation deficits, low snow water content, and expected negative impacts to agriculture.

The GFS and ECMWF models indicate a favorable upper-level pattern for occasional precipitation throughout the region with the heaviest precipitation (locally more than 25 mm) across Afghanistan, eastern Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and northern Pakistan. This late-season wetness is expected to provide beneficial soil moisture but have no effect on irrigation supplies associated with snow pack.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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